



2019 - 2010

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and colleagues to visit us at ~  
[WWW.LWVTARRANTCOUNTY.ORG](http://WWW.LWVTARRANTCOUNTY.ORG)

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Thank you to our 2019  
community sponsors:

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*The mission of the League of Women Voters is to encourage informed and active participation in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.*



Please join us

— and bring a friend—  
as LWV Tarrant County  
kicks off a busy fall with  
our

Ice Cream Social

|September 8  
2-4 p.m.

Owners' Lounge, T&P Lofts  
201 West Lancaster Avenue  
Fort Worth

(Parking is free on Sundays)

North Texas Giving Day Is Almost Here

COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION OF TEXAS' 11TH ANNUAL NORTH TEXAS  
GIVING DAY WILL BE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019!



LWV Tarrant County will participate once again in this opportunity to support local nonprofits. Please remind your friends that the League's important work for the community needs everyone's support. Online donations will be accepted beginning on September 9, but the big day of giving is September 19. You can donate to one nonprofit or several by visiting

<https://www.northtexasgivingday.org/index.php>

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

We are the League of Women Voters of Tarrant County (LWVTC), one of the hundreds of local Leagues across the nation whose members — men and women — are committed to Making Democracy Work.

Our nonpartisan political organization encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. LWV does NOT support or oppose any political party or any candidate. Your membership automatically enrolls you in LWV-Texas and LWVUS at no additional cost and provides publications from all three.

Mail your membership application, dues, and contributions to:

LWVTC, P. O. Box 100175, Fort Worth, TX 76185 or enroll online at <http://lwtarrantcounty.org/join.html>.

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

### Basic Membership:

- \$75/yr      **Regular** full voting member
- \$115/yr     **Family** (two members in one household)
- \$5/yr        **Student**

**Or consider one of the following:**

### Supporting Membership:

- \$100/yr     **Sustaining** Membership: Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- \$150/yr     **Advocate** Membership: Carrie Chapman Catt
- \$200/yr     **Patron** Membership: Mary McLeod Bethune
- \$300/yr     **Benefactor** Membership: Eleanor Roosevelt

### ***THE VOTER NEWSLETTER BY U.S. MAIL***

- \$10/yr      (*online VOTER is no additional cost*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to attend one of our Unit meetings? If so, please indicate which Unit would best suit your needs.

- Arlington Area     Downtown Fort Worth Area     Northeast Tarrant County
- South/Southwest Tarrant County

*The League Mission is to empower voters and defend democracy. We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate. We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.*

### *Co-President's Message*

Summer has sped by all too fast, and as we look forward to a cooler fall, we hope you are ready for a busy autumn. Our League calendar is filling fast with

- an [ice cream social](#) to kick off the fall (September 8),
- [two voter registrar training events](#), including one in Spanish (September 14),
- [monthly unit meetings](#) (the week of September 16 and October 15-21)
- [voter registration events](#) at BNSF (September 24) and in local libraries on National Voter Registration Day (September 27)
- a [Hot Topic luncheon](#) with Heider Garcia, Tarrant County Elections Administrator (October 9)
- an [environmental forum on water](#) (late October)

And that's just what our Tarrant County League has planned. [LWV Texas](#) will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding on October 19 in San Antonio; go to [www.lwvtarrantcounty.org](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org) for details. In addition, LWV Texas is preparing members and the public for hearings on redistricting, which are being held around the state this summer and fall (though actual redistricting won't take place until 2021, after the census is completed).

While you may not be able to attend every event, we hope you will find plenty to stimulate your mind and please your taste buds as well. So mark your calendars and plan to rekindle old friendships and make new friends throughout LWV Tarrant County.

### *Unit Meeting Topics for 2019-2020*

Monthly unit meetings, which are at the heart of League activities, resume the third week of September as begin a discussion of redistricting and the effect of HB 4181 on how much of legislators' discussions will be reported to the public. Some months we will encourage members to propose local issues for League discussion and possible action locally (and beyond if appropriate).

September	HB 4181 and its impact on elections/redistricting, plus a short review of voting centers and other changes to voting in Texas
October	Texas Constitutional Amendments and further discussion of voting
November	Preparing for the 2020 Census
January	Review and possible revision of our local Program, plus Zoning changes passed by the Texas legislature
February	State legislation v. local control
March	BYOI (Bring Your Own Issue) for State Convention
April	State Convention information
May	Units meet at own discretion. May have year-end social, tour, speaker etc.

## *Hot Topic Lunch Announced for October 9*

*11:00-1:00 p.m.*

*Joe T. Garcia's*

*2201 N. Commerce Street, Fort Worth 76164*

Please join the League in welcoming Tarrant County Elections Administrator [Heider Garcia](#), who will speak about new voting machines and some changes to voting procedures in Tarrant County. Tickets are \$35, and reservations can be made at [www.lwvtarrantcounty.org](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org). Bring a family member, bring friends, but be sure to make your reservations by October 4.

## *Summer Summary*

While many of us have managed some down time this summer, the LWV Tarrant County Board has also been active. We held a strategic planning session in June to lay out broad goals for the coming year, and on July 31 Peggy Hendon and the unit chairs met to plan specific topics for unit meetings. On August 10, Dawn Ellison, Nancy Stevens, Peggy Hendon, Pam Wright and Pat Cheong attended LWV Texas Regional Training in Plano. Stephanie Swenson, who has been working on redistricting for LWV Texas, presented a Powerpoint and detailed explanation of the League's concerns about redistricting after the 2020 census, and we will share this information with LWV Tarrant County members before the redistricting hearing in Tarrant County in October.

Co-President Nancy Stevens addressed the Fort Worth City Council in June as they finalized their fee structure for the Botanic Garden. In response to the concerns expressed at an earlier city council meeting, there will be a free hour for Fort Worth residents at the beginning and end of weekdays, free afternoon hours for school-age children, and reduced fees for Fort Worth residents one Saturday per month, as well as several ways for low-income residents to obtain free admission. Some council members expressed a desire to review the fee structure in six months to see its effects on attendance and revenues.

On July 3 Nancy Stevens spoke to the County Commissioners Court in support of voting centers (similar to early voting sites) for Election Day voting. As a compromise for those who are accustomed to voting in home precincts, the commissioners will give Tarrant County voters the option of voting at a voting center or in their home precinct through the 2020 elections. As a follow-up to expressing our concern for making voting accessible for the most people, Dawn Ellison authored a letter to the Commissioners asking them to ensure that the new voting machines they are considering be tamper-proof and capable of creating a paper trail should a recount ever be needed.

## *Board and Unit Meeting Changes*

Over the summer, two elected Board members resigned: [Susan Cardin](#) in June, and earlier in August, [Carolyn Kitchens](#). Carolyn is taking on a demanding volunteer position, creating a program that addresses the hunger needs of school children, and must step away from the Board.

[Pat Cheong](#), a past president of LWV Tarrant County and a former board member of LWV Texas, has agreed to serve on the Board, and we appreciate her continued service to the League.

Because of her new position, Carolyn Kitchens has also resigned as unit leader for the [Mid-Cities unit](#). Any member who wishes to lead the mid-Cities unit should contact Dawn Ellison or Nancy Stevens, or email or call Sandy Knight at the LWVTC office.

[Linda Hanratty](#) has agreed to chair the environmental committee and is organizing the October water forum. Please contact her if you wish to be part of this committee, or sign up for it and other committees at the Ice Cream Social on September 8.

As many of you have already learned, the League's email address at sbcglobal.net was hacked in late May. Unfortunately, we have been unable to restore it so far. Instead, we have switched to exclusively using our gmail account, [lwvtarrant@gmail.com](mailto:lwvtarrant@gmail.com). Please add this to your address book and delete the sbcglobal account if you can; at a minimum, ignore any generic requests for assistance that may come from the hacked account.

The next Voter will be published in early September with more information about the Volunteer Deputy Registrar trainings, the unit topic, voter registration opportunities, and details about the Hot Topic luncheon and a local redistricting hearing scheduled for October in Tarrant County. This information will also be on our web site, [www.lwvtarrantcounty.org](http://www.lwvtarrantcounty.org).

### *Welcome New and Renewing Members*

Please join us in welcoming three new members: [Peggy Harwood](#), [Janet Mattern](#), and [Mollea Foust](#).

And thank you to our members who have renewed for another year. We hope you will all be actively involved in the League and are ready to celebrate the League's centennial with us in 2020.